

Once There, ShowBiz Place Hard to Leave

By BARRY MORRISON Denver Post Staff Writer

This is a warning for parents, especially those living in the southeast part of our city.

Any day now — it might already have happened — your children will be clamoring for you to take them to the new ShowBiz Pizza Place, in the London Square Shopping Center at East Iliff Avenue and South Peoria Street in Aurora, so they can meet and greet Billy Bob Brockali, a friendly hill-billy bear, and his Birthday Bird, Buddy.

That's just for openers. They'll also want to be entertained by the "Rock-A-Fire Explosion" made up of Rolfe De Wolfe, the emcee; Fats, a piano-playing gorilla; Duke La Rue, the dog drummer; Beach Bear, guitarist; Mitzi Mozzarella, mouse vocalist, and the chief heckler, Looney Bird.

Billy Bob is impersonated by an actor in costume. The others are oversized animal characters that are "electronimated" and seem almost alive as they sing, play instruments and do comedy routines.

THEY DO a new show about every eight minutes or so.

Also included is a game room with more than 50 electronic games, a special section for tiny tots with scaled down games, a slide, merry-go-round, and a magic cave.

Once you've ordered and received your pizza, you can go two different directions. Try out the Show Room, which is where the animal performers are, or the Sports Room.

The Sports Room is a good place for addled parents because there is a large-screen television in there from which you can watch everything from soap operas to sporting events, and also some sitdown video games.

Give the children some tokens available on the premises and let them go into the Game Room.

The menu at ShowBiz is a child's dream. They offer pizza, a roast beef sandwich, hot dogs, a salad bar, ice

cream, soft drinks, popcorn, cotton candy and, for parents, some beer.

THE RESTAURANT is the 10th of a series, the brainchild of two corporations, the Brock Hotel Corp., of Topeka, Kan., and Creative Engineering of Orlando, Fla.

The electronimated animals were created by 30-year-old Aaron Fletcher, an inventor/businessman in Orlando.

Fletcher, who was graduated from the University of South Florida at 19, built his first electronimated show using computers at 21.

At the age of 4, Fletcher was taking radios apart. At 5 he was putting them back together. By the time he was 11, he had a TV repair business.

"I had to close that down," he said, "because I couldn't lift the sets."



SHOWBIZ' COMES TO DENVER

Denver Post columnist Barry Morrison warns that the atmosphere at the new ShowBiz pizza restaurant is quite addictive to youngsters and even

their parents. Loaded with electronic games and puppets that perform in a band, the Aurora establishment should be quite popular.



ONCE THERE, SHOWBIZ PLACE HARD TO LEAVE

(The Denver Post - January, 1981)

Date of Origin: 1981 Archived: 4-24-08 Submission by VegaNova Version 1.0

The documents contained herein are for educational use only. Please do not replicate, redistribute, or make any unauthorized printings. All intellectual property including characters, artwork, photography, and slogans are trademark and/or copyright their respective owners.

